

Who We Are

Within the Office of the Attorney General, the Victims Advocacy Division was established in 1985, to provide enhanced assistance to crime victims, as mandated by KRS 421.500, the Victims' Bill of Rights.

What We Do

The Victims Advocacy Division provides training, legislative and research support services, educational materials and project development, technical assistance to enhance victims' rights, and services.

This service is available to the diverse professionals who work with crime victims (including prosecutors, advocates, law enforcement and other government agencies), as well as schools, community groups and the general public.

Who We Serve

- Victims
- Prosecutors
- Victim Advocates
- Law enforcement
- Schools
- Government agencies
- Social Service agencies
- Community groups
- Individuals

The OAG does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, religion, age or disability in employment or in the provision of services and provides upon request, reasonable accommodation necessary to afford individuals with disabilities an equal opportunity to participate in all programs and activities. Printed with state funds.

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Office of the Attorney General
Victims Advocacy Division
1024 Capital Center Dr.
Frankfort, KY 40601



Office of the Attorney General **Victims Advocacy Division**



*Working to ensure justice and provide
support for Kentucky crime victims, while
promoting awareness of victims' rights*

1024 Capital Center Drive
Frankfort, KY 40601
(502) 696-5312
Victim Information Line (800) 372-2551
www.ag.ky.gov/victims

What We Offer

- Programs that address today's most pressing crime and violence issues;
- Consultation with experienced and knowledgeable staff;
- Resources including up-to-date books, pamphlets and videos; and
- Training on criminal justice issues for the diverse professionals who work with crime victims.

PROGRAMS

Domestic Violence

- On-staff violence against women prosecution specialist;
- Domestic violence training for victim advocates, prosecutors, and other professional groups when necessary or requested;
- *Domestic Violence Checklist/Victims' Rights Card*, a laminated card for placement in police car visors and to be used for facilitating better on-scene investigations of domestic violence incidents; and
- Procedural manuals providing quick reference to relevant laws and strategies in the area of domestic violence.

Child Abuse/ Child Sexual Abuse

- Legal staff providing expertise in the area of child abuse/sexual abuse;
- Child sexual abuse multidisciplinary team training;
- Staff for the Kentucky Multidisciplinary Commission on Child Sexual Abuse (KRS 431.670); and
- Staff for the Child Sexual Abuse and Exploitation Prevention Board (KRS 15.905(1), including oversight and administration of the Child Victims' Trust Fund, and both its child sexual abuse prevention grant and child sexual abuse medical exam reimbursement programs. Also included is monitoring and advertising the programs which fund the CVTF: the "I Care About Kids" license plate and state income tax refund check-off programs.

Training

- Annual conference for victim assistance professionals and victims;
- New legislation affecting victims, victim advocates, and prosecutors;
- Victim advocate orientation;
- Child sexual abuse multidisciplinary team;
- Domestic violence; and
- Annual trial advocacy training for prosecutors statewide, through staff provided for coordination of the program.

Victim Assistance and Support

- Annual Kentucky Crime Victims' Rights Day event;
- Crime Victim Information Line (a toll-free telephone line available to crime victims statewide);
- Crime victim support in criminal court proceedings;
- Notification of criminal appeals, KRS 421.500(5);
- Publishing and distributing an information handbook for victims, KRS 15.245;
- Providing technical assistance to Commonwealth's and county attorneys on establishing victim assistance programs, KRS 421.500(9);
- Providing victim assistance to under-served areas and when the Office of the Attorney General prosecutes a criminal case, KRS 421.500; and
- Providing other services for victims as requested by prosecuting attorneys.

Resources

- Victims Advocacy Division Web site, providing pertinent victim-related information and many of the division's publications in both English and Spanish;
- *Crime Victims' Bill of Rights Handbook* - includes statutory information contained in the Crime Victims' Bill of Rights, KRS 421.500 (also available in Spanish);
- Procedural manuals offering quick reference to relevant laws and strategies in the area of domestic violence;
- *Victim Assistance Program Manual* - a comprehensive manual for victim advocates, including sample forms, pertinent statutes, resource list, procedural charts on the legal system and a glossary;
- *Domestic Violence Checklist/Rights Card* - a laminated card to be placed in the visor of patrol cars and used to facilitate better on-scene investigations of incidents of domestic violence; and
- Victim Advocacy Grants - providing limited funding for community-based advocates in under-served areas.